

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-5 and 7-21 remain in this application. Rejected claim 6 is being canceled, as are claims 22-28 drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 5, 11 and 12 are being amended in response to rejections herein under 35 U.S.C. §35 U.S.C. §112.

The Applicants hereby confirm their election of Group I claims 1-21 for further prosecution in this application. Non-elected claims 22-28 are being canceled without prejudice to Applicants' right to present such claims in a continuing application.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in the application is appreciatively acknowledged. Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

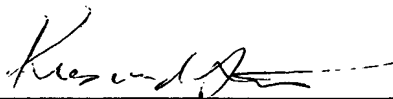
Claims 5-19 of the application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. In particular, the term "near" in claims 5 and 12 was objected to as indefinite in scope, while the limitations "the channels" in claim 6 and "the product containing liquid" in claim 11 were found to lack antecedent basis.

In response to these rejections, the term "near" has been deleted from claims 5 and 12 by amendment, claim 6 as been canceled, and claim 11 has been amended to address the lack of antecedent basis. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 7-21 are now believed to be in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112.

Therefore, in light of the foregoing amendments, the Applicants respectfully submit that all remaining claims of this application are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly favorable reconsideration of this application and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance herein are courteously solicited.

Applicants believe that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely, but contingently request that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as is necessary to make this Reply timely, if in fact such an extension is required. In that contingency the Office is hereby authorized to charge any necessary extension fee or surcharge to the deposit account of Corning Incorporated, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Respectfully submitted,



DATE: June 14, 2004

Kees van der Sterre  
Attorney for Assignee  
Reg. No. 25,938  
Corning Incorporated  
SP-TI-03-1  
Corning, NY 14831  
Phone: (607) 974-3294